**MELBOURNE-TILLMAN WATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

**M I N U T E S**

February 24, 2026

## CALL TO ORDER

The regular scheduled meeting of the Melbourne-Tillman Water Control District (MTWCD) Board of Directors was called to order by Phil Weinberg, President on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 9:00 AM in the City of West Melbourne Council Chambers, Veterans Memorial Complex, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all present.

## ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were present:

Joe Hale, Vice President
Brant Hoffman
Scott Morgan
Don Jordan, arrived at 9:08 am
Drew Powshok
Philip Weinberg, President

Absent: Jay Woltering

Also present:

Rick Nipper, District Manager
Lisa Blackett, Secretary/Treasurer
Jim Beadle, District Attorney

## RECOGNITION OF GUESTS/VISITORS/STAFF

Mike McCabe, District Engineer
Bo Rainbolt, Assistant Manager of Operations
Ryan Courech, Meridian Homes

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The District Manager announced District employee Tauin Durant, Mower Operator IV reached 20 years of employment with the District on January 2, 2026 and Elaine Robbins, Administrative Assistant reached 5 years of employment with the District on February 28, 2026.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

## PRESENTATIONS

Ryan Courech, Meridian Homes requested refunds for fines that were charged for access on the District's ROW during the construction of four homes. Mr. Courech advised he was not aware the construction activity was a violation of District policy and apologized. The District Manager asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the memo

included in the agenda package. The District Manager explained the permit fee for temporary access would be $30 a linear foot with half of that amount returned to the applicant once the right of way was restored. He added in this case, the right of way had already been restored so Mr. Courech was charged $15/lf the standard permit fee. Mr. Hale stated that he believed the District should charge the $15/lf for the temporary access. Scott Morgan agreed that the permit fees should not be waived to zero and agreed with $15/LF. The President added that since this is a standard permit fee there should not be a waiver of fees. He added they did a fantastic job of restoration and that the permit fee should stand as is. Joe Hale **motioned that the standard permit fees shown in the memo stand.** Brant Hoffman **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

The President presented the minutes from the October 28, 2025 Board meeting for approval. Scott Morgan **motioned to approve the Minutes from the October 28, 2025, Board Meeting**. Joe Hale **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

The President presented the Operating Statement through October 31, 2025 for Board approval. Joe Hale **motioned to approve the Operating Statement through October 31, 2025**. Scott Morgan **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

The President presented the minutes from the February 3, 2026 Special Meeting for approval. Joe Hale **motioned to approve the Minutes from the February 3, 2026 Special Board Meeting**. Drew Powshok **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

The President presented the Operating Statement through January 31, 2026 for Board approval. Dew Powshok **motioned to approve the Operating Statement through January 31, 2026**. Joe Hale **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

The President presented MTWCD Policy P232 Leave for review and with housekeeping changes for approval. The Manager stated the changes were to streamline the policy. Drew Powshok **motioned to accept the changes as presented. Don Jordan seconded the motion. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

The District Manager reported that the contract for the Corcoran Group was carried over from Decemeber 2, 2025. He added he signed the contract but there was a 30-day exit if the Board chose to go in a different direction. The Manager stated he suggested continuation with the group and the Board President agreed. Joe Hale agreed that he felt the District was being well represented. Joe Hale **motioned to approve the contract for services with the Corcoran Group.** Drew Powshok **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

Joe Hale recommended that the District Manager be given the CPI increase of 2.7% increase or $4162 increase. The Board President stated he felt the Disttrict Manager has exceeded expectations and the he was happy with his performance. He also added in more robust financial times, he would support a higher increase. Joe Hale **motioned to increase the District Manager's wage 2.7% or $4,162.** Drew Powshok **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**BUDGET**

The Manager requested $15,000 be transferred from Account #5450000, Insurance to Account #5462800, Maintenance Agreements for the unforeseen increased cost of the District's IT Maintenance & Support due to the sudden loss of Rick Moon, Connect II. The Manager added the cost has risen from approximately $5500 to $12,000 per year. Joe Hale **motioned to transfer $15,000 from Account #5450000, Insurance to Account #5462800, Maintenance Agreements for the increased IT costs.** Brant Hoffman **seconded the motion**. The Board **voted 6-0 to approve the motion.**

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

The District Manager reported the House Bill has not been heard by the committee. The Chair, Jaques is not amenable to any bills seen as a tax, which despite our best efforts, he is not on board.

The Manager report that the C-69 bypass project had been completed, and staff signed off on the ownership. He added there is a maintenance bond for future use if needed. The Manager added the structure seems to be working, but the rainy season will provide better proof.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

The District Engineer reported there are a vast number of permits all through the District. He added there were several large, time-consuming applications west of the Sawgrass Lakes area. The District Engineer read an email celebrating Engineers Week and applauded the Board and Staff for their contributions.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER/OPERATIONS REPORT**

The Assistant Manager/Operations reported C-77 on Babcock Street had removed a big sandbar and repaired a large washout. He advised that the Canals are filled with an aquatic weed called parrotfeather. The Assistant Manager/Operations stated that staff has struggled with the colder temperatures causing issues with the invert spray system limiting operations. He stated the aquatic staff had been working to correct the problem when they realized the invert oil formula might have changed. After contact with the supplier, staff was correct. In order to correct, staff is working with the vendor to alter the formula and fix the invert oil ratio.

The Assistant Manager reported the District's new mowing tractor was delivered and should be in full service within two weeks. He added the heavy equipment group will begin a project on C-66 in conjunction with the City of Palm Bay to remove obstructions which have caused problems to homes in the area.

The Assistant Manager/Operations advised the Board the District's annual maintenance on the MS-1 structure at Site 1 will begin on March 15, 2026 and should be completed within a couple of weeks.

The Board President asked the Assistant Manager/Operations for a status update on the harvester. He reported that the harvester appears to be at the end of its' useful life, but staff is exploring all options to divest the equipment with a gain for the District. The District Manager advised he has been in discussion with Virginia Barker, Brevard County to see if the County might accept it in trade for services.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

None

## SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT

The Secretary/Treasurer reported that the FEMA audit had been moving forward towards a conclusion, but that the government shut down has slowed progress including the $80,450 payment that is due the District since August 2025. She advised the Board the budget planning has begun and that the auditors from Carr, Riggs & Ingram will be at the April 28, 2026 Board meeting to present the audit.

## CLOSING

The President stated that the next Board meeting would be Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 9:00 AM in the City of West Melbourne Council Chambers, Veterans Memorial Complex, 2285 Minton Road, West Melbourne, Florida.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Joe Hale – Thanked and congratulated Talvin and Elaine for the time they have put into the District. He asked about how much staff time was involved in the Meridian Homes and if the fees exceeded the cost of the permit, then additional charges should be levied.

Brant Hoffman – none

Scott Morgan – none

Don Jordan – none

Drew Powshok – Asked "Happy Engineer" where the calendars were

Jay Woltering – none

Phil Weinberg –. Congratulated Talvin on 20 years and Elaine on 5 years of service. Thanked the Manager for a job well done.

ADJOURN

Phil Weinberg, President adjourned the meeting at 9:39 am.

Respectfully,

Lisa Blackett

Secretary

Board of Directors